



# Beacon Business Innovation Hub

**BBIH**  
Woodford Bridge Road,  
Ilford, Essex, IG4 5LP  
Tel: 020 8418 4760  
Email: [admin@bbih.org](mailto:admin@bbih.org)  
[www.bbih.org](http://www.bbih.org)

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/carer,

As we reach the end of the first half term, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank students, parents and carers for the way in which everyone has supported our determination to get back to normal school life. Attendance and punctuality to lessons has continued to be exceptional and we have been delighted with students' maturity and positive engagement throughout this half term. Enjoy half term and please find below updates and reminders to facilitate a smooth start next half-term.

## COVID 19 Risk Assessment

Our students and staff attendance is way above the national and local average and our number of confirmed cases incredibly low amongst staff and students when compared to local and national data. Rest assured our containment of potential infection and contact with parents in line with close contact guidance is working and does not put anyone at risk. Attached is our most up to date risk assessment in light of changes made to the DfE guidance for the full opening of schools on the 22nd October. It is essential you do not send your child into school if someone in the household has tested positive to support our endeavours. Please inform the school straight away if this is the case and your child will be expected to self-isolate for 14 days. Please continue to communicate with us of any positive cases in your families over the half term by informing us via the [admin@bbih.org](mailto:admin@bbih.org) mailbox.

## Face Coverings

As you know, from Monday 19th October face coverings must be worn by adults (staff and visitors) and students when moving around indoors, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

There is a requirement for all of our community to play their part in taking care of each other. We support the small number of students who have reasons why they cannot wear a mask, however, for everyone else, we must insist that they be worn in communal areas. Please encourage your son/daughter to follow this recommendation and check that they have their face covering(s) the night before.



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## Remote learning

We have put detailed plans in place to ensure that students can continue to receive high quality education whether they are in school, self-isolating or following adapted timetables due to school closures or restrictions.

We use the interactive platform, Show My Homework, for remote education provision. Every student and teacher has access to this platform through their school email account. For Maths, we also use the platform MyMaths to provide bespoke assessment based support. Again every student has access to this platform.

For further details of our remote learning provision and quality assurance of this, please visit our website for further information.

## Food service

We are pleased to let you know that from after half term, we will re-start serving food on the school site. This will begin from Monday 2nd November, we are maintaining our two short breaks as this ensures our social distancing strategy by reducing the opportunities to spend time in close proximity with other students during unstructured time for 15 minutes or more.

We will be serving a small selection of food each day, including a cold sandwich, a hot meal (with a vegetarian option), some salad and fruit. Food will be served in a socially distanced manner. Students on Free School Meals will receive this as their meal in the usual way with credit applied to their Parent pay account, other students, should they choose to purchase this option, will be charged using their Parent Pay account.

In order to support us in providing the right numbers of lunches, and to reduce food wastage, we ask that you indicate if you wish your child(ren) to have these lunches. This survey is non-committal, but will help us plan the lunch service quantities required and of course you may still provide food and drinks for your child(ren).

Email [admin@bbih.org](mailto:admin@bbih.org) and indicate if you would be interested in purchasing food on site.

## Parental Consultations

When we return after half term we will be begin our Parental Consultations. This will replace the traditional Parents' Evening and will allow parents, students and teachers to meet together via a phone call; in some instances, it may be more practicable for teachers to employ an alternative means of communication (e.g. Microsoft Teams or email).



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## Summer Exams 2021

The Government recently confirmed that the summer AS, A Level and GCSE exams for 2021 will be delayed by three weeks. Exact details are yet to be confirmed by the DfE and Ofqual, as soon as the information is released we will update you.

The summer exam series will start on 7 June and end on 2 July for almost all AS and A levels and GCSEs. Results days are Tuesday 24 August for A and AS levels and Friday 27 August for GCSEs so students will start the following academic year as normal. Please see further information at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/students-to-be-given-more-time-to-prepare-for-2021-exams>.

## Free school meals

Following the Government decision on Wednesday not to support children who are entitled to Free School Meals during the upcoming half term and then again over the Christmas break, the Local Authority have decided to provide Free School Meals for all vulnerable children and young people next week and again over Christmas. We will update you with further information about this when we receive it.

Please do visit our latest Sway (e-newsletter), to see what students and staff have been up to over the last few weeks:

<https://sway.office.com/VNOAlcHYLxLwdLkB?ref=email>

Please do check our website on the throughout the half term just in case tier levels have changed or there are changes to local lockdown arrangements including school opening. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience, this is very much appreciated and would like to wish you a restful half term.

Kindest regards,

**Trevor Button**

Principal, Beacon Business Innovation Hub



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